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a display constituted by a plurality of panels connected to the host system, wherein the plurality of panels in said display have a panel ID as an identifier, wherein said host system allocates a window ID for a window in an image space, of which the host system is conscious, adds the window ID to an image signal, thus outputting the image signal to said display, and outputs a control signal to allow the window ID and said panel ID to correspond to each other.

20. (Amended) An image display method which displays an image on a display based on a signal from a host system for executing an application, comprising the steps of:

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setting a panel ID for identifying either a single display section or a predetermined number of display sections forming a tiling, for the plurality of display sections constituting said display;

defining a window in an image space, of which said host system is conscious;

allocating a window ID for the window;

prior to a transfer of image information, setting a window ID to be processed for said display section for which said panel ID is set; and

transferring said image information after adding said window ID to said image information.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 29 are pending. Claims 30 and 31 have been cancelled. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Porter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,889,945). The Examiner stated essentially that Porter teaches or suggests all the limitations of the claimed invention.

Claims 1 and 7 claim, *inter alia*, "a window ID allocation section for allocating a window ID for a window constituting a unit for transferring an image signal; ... and an image signal transfer section for adding said window ID to said image signal and transferring said image signal to said unit having said panel ID." Claims 11 and 14 claim, *inter alia*, "recognition means for recognizing a correspondence relation of said panel ID and a window ID to be processed, with respect to the window ID allocated for a window that is a transfer processing unit of the image signal." Claims 18 and 20 claim, *inter alia*, "said host system allocates a window ID for a window in an image space, of which the host system is conscious." Claim 25 claims, *inter alia*, "by a display panel having the panel ID other than '0', selecting one of the plurality of display panels connected to the downstream side, thus transferring the attribute information to said host system."

Porter teaches a method and apparatus for associating user information with conference participants in a conferencing environment. The user information is stored in an attendee bar database at each conferencing end point and is displayed at the end point via one or more attendee bars. Each conferencing application can include and modify its own attendee bar. The attendee bar(s) includes, for each of the conference participants, which are sharing the corresponding application, a different panel which can include various graphical, textual, etc. indicators corresponding to the conferencing participant. (See Col. 2 line 64 to Col. 3 line 8.)

Referring to claims 1 and 7, Porter does not teach or suggest "a window ID allocation section for allocating a window ID for a window constituting a unit for transferring an

image signal; ... and an image signal transfer section for adding said window ID to said image signal and transferring said image signal to said unit having said panel ID” as claimed in claims 1 and 7. The windows of Porter are not analogous to the windows constituting a unit for transferring an image signal of claims 1 and 7. The windows of Porter are merely elements of a graphical user interface displayed and controlled by an end point. According to Porter each end point is responsible for managing its own display of information. (Col. 5, lines 6 to 11.) The claimed “window” recited in claims 1 and 7 is a unit for transferring an image signal from a host device to a panel having a corresponding panel ID. Porter does not teach any such unit for transferring an image signal to a panel. Accordingly, claims 1 and 7 are believed to be allowable over Porter.

Referring to claims 11 and 14, Porter does not teach or suggest a “recognition means for recognizing a correspondence relation of said panel ID and a window ID to be processed, with respect to the window ID allocated for a window that is a transfer processing unit of the image signal.” As discussed with respect to claims 1 and 7, Porter does not teach or suggest “a window that is a transfer processing unit of the image signal.” Porter teaches only a system and method for conferencing comprising the exchange of information between end points. (See Col. 3, lines 37 to 45.) Porter does not teach or suggest a window ID allocated for a window that is a transfer processing unit of the image signal to be transferred from the host device to a panel, essentially as claimed in claims 11 and 14. Therefore, claims 11 and 14 are believed to be patentable over Porter.

Referring to claims 18 and 20, Porter does not disclose or suggest “said host system allocates a window ID for a window in an image space, of which the host system is conscious.” Porter teaches a system and method for conferencing comprising the exchange of

information between end points. (See Col. 3, lines 37 to 45.) Porter does not teach or suggest an image space, much less a window having a window ID in the image space, essentially as claimed in claims 18 and 20. Porter is not concerned with the display of an image signal, only the exchange of data between end points, wherein each end point controls the characteristics of a display individually. Therefore, claims 18 and 20 are believed to be patentable over Porter.

Referring now to claim 25, Porter does not teach or suggest "by a display panel having the panel ID other than "0", selecting one of the plurality of display panels connected to the downstream side, thus transferring the attribute information to said host system." Porter teaches a star architecture as shown in Fig. 3. Even assuming, *arguendo*, that Porter teaches panels, in a star architecture network as taught by Porter there is no "downstream side" from a panel, as claimed in claim 25, each panel is an end point. Therefore, claim 25 is believed to be allowable over Porter.

Claims 2 to 6 depend from claim 1. Claims 8 to 10 depend from claim 7. Claims 12 and 13 depend from claim 11. Claims 15 to 17 depend from claim 14. Claim 19 depends from claim 18. Claims 21 to 24 depend from claim 20. Claims 26 to 29 depend from claim 25. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for the independent claims. At least claims 2 and 8 are believed to be allowable for additional reasons.

Referring to claims 2 and 8, the Examiner stated that Porter teaches a signal generation device, which may be, coupled with system I/O bus 331 along with other elements including display device (323).

Claims 2 and 8 claim a control signal section that "outputs setting information of a processing space that is information relating to a display area to be processed for each unit having said panel ID."

Porter teaches a system and method for conferencing comprising the exchange of information between end points, wherein the end points control display functions. (See Col. 5, lines 6 to 11.) Porter does not teach "a processing space that is information relating to a display area to be processed for each unit having said panel ID", wherein the control signal section is an element of a host device as claimed in claims 2 and 8. According to Porter, each end point defines the area occupied by a window, thus there is no output of setting information essentially as claimed in claims 2 and 8 of the present invention.

Accordingly, the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the forgoing reasons, the application, including claims 1 to 29 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A host device [which transfers an image signal to a plurality of panels]for controlling the display of a portion of an image space in at least one panel connected thereto, comprising:

a panel ID recognition section for recognizing a panel ID for a unit consisting of either a single panel or a predetermined number of panels for displaying said portion of the image space;

a window ID allocation section for allocating a window ID for a window constituting a unit for transferring [said]an image signal;

a control signal output section for outputting a control signal for setting said window ID to be processed [to]for said panel ID [in transferring said image signal]; and

an image signal transfer section for adding said window ID [allocated by said window ID allocation section] to said image signal and transferring said image signal to said unit having said panel ID.

7. (Amended) A host device which transfers an image signal to a high-resolution panel connected thereto, comprising:

a panel ID recognition section for imagining sub-panels obtained by dividing said high-resolution panel into a predetermined number of subpanels and for recognizing a panel ID for a unit consisting of the single sub-panel or a predetermined number of the sub-panels;

a window ID allocation section for allocating a window ID for a window constituting a unit for transferring said image signal;

a control signal output section for outputting a control signal to set said window ID to be processed for said panel ID [in transferring said image signal]; and

an image signal transfer section for adding said window ID [allocated by said window ID allocation section] to said image signal and transferring said image signal to said unit having said panel ID.

11. (Amended) An image display device, which is connected to a host device for transferring an image signal and displays an image by a plurality of panels, comprising:

panel ID setting means for setting a panel ID, which is an identifier, either for a single panel or for a predetermined number of panels;

recognition means for recognizing a correspondence relation of said panel ID and a window ID to be processed, with respect to the window ID allocated for a window that is a transfer processing unit of the image signal; and

receiving means for receiving said window ID added to the image signal transferred, wherein a panel processes, based on the correspondence relation recognized by said recognition means, the image signal for which a specified window ID received by the receiving means is allocated, the panel having a panel ID which corresponds to the specified window ID.

18. (Amended) An image display system comprising:

a host system for executing an application; and

a display constituted by a plurality of panels connected to the host system, wherein the plurality of panels in said display have a panel ID as an identifier[; and], wherein said

host system allocates a window ID for a window [that is an area making a sense collectively on]in an image space, of which the host system is conscious, adds the window ID to an image signal, thus outputting the image signal to said display, and outputs a control signal to allow the window ID and said panel ID to correspond to each other.

20. (Amended) An image display method which displays an image on a display based on a signal from a host system for executing an application, comprising the steps of:

- setting a panel ID for identifying either a single display section or a predetermined number of display sections forming a tiling, for the plurality of display sections constituting said display;

- defining a window [as an area which makes a sense collectively on]in an image space, of which said host system is conscious;

- allocating a window ID for the window;

- prior to a transfer of image information, setting a window ID to be processed for said display section for which said panel ID is set; and

- transferring said image information after adding said window ID to said image information.